ACTRESSES

A Creative Commons Sourcebook; written & compiled by Matt Pierard, copyright Summer 2013.

This is a series of short bios of the key film actresses of the 20th Century, followed by their notable film & television work, their very best performances in **bold** letters. This book is formatted for e-Readers and other handheld devices. If you want to print it out, take in consideration that the page sizes are not conventional.

JANE ALEXANDER

Stage-trained character player.
Slender, attractive with large,
expressive eyes and brown hair
usually worn long and loose;
specializes in strong, patrician types.

The Great White Hope – 1970 All The President's Men – 1976 Eleanor and Franklin – 1976 Kramer vs Kramer – 1979 Playing for Time – 1980 Testament – 1983 Malice in Wonderland – 1985 Glory – 1989

JOAN ALLEN

Tall, slender, usually blonde with intense blue eyes. Best seen in dramas as stalwart wives (incl. Pat Nixon) and mothers.

Compromising Positions – 1985

Manhunter – 1986

Tucker: The Man... – 1988

Nixon – 1995

The Ice Storm – 1997

Pleasantville – 1998

The Contender – 2000

The Upside of Anger – 2005

JULIE ANDREWS

Musical-comedy leading lady of the stage who made film debut in 1964 and promptly won an Oscar. Bright eyes, boy-cut blonde hair, dry wit, and exquisite soprano are her main trademarks.

Mary Poppins – 1964
The Americanization of Emily – '64
The Sound of Music – 1965
Star! – 1968
The Tamarind Seed – 1974
S.O.B. – 1981
Victor/Victoria – 1982
Shrek films (voice)

JEAN ARTHUR

Squeaky-voiced blonde with spunky personality from late silent era through the early 50's. Retired too early, wound up on TV.

You Can't Take It With You – 1938 Only Angels Have Wings – 1939 Mr Smith Goes To Washington – '39 The Devil and Miss Jones – 1941 The Talk of the Town – 1942 A Foreign Affair – 1948 Shane – 1953

MARY ASTOR

Petite brunette from silents revealed haughty upper-class voice and talent for bitchiness, then more matronly roles in very long career.

Dodsworth – 1936
The Great Lie – 1941
The Maltese Falcon – 1941
Across The Pacific – 1942
The Palm Beach Story – 1942
Meet Me In St Louis – 1944
Little Women – 1949
Hush, Hush Sweet Charlotte – '64

LAUREN BACALL

Lean, tough babe with the comehither look and sassy delivery. Began public life as a fashion model, electrified WWII-era world with debut performance.

To Have and Have Not – 1944
The Big Sleep – 1946
Dark Passage – 1947
Key Largo – 1948
Young Man With A Horn – 1950
Designing Woman – 1955
Written on the Wind – 1957
Harper – 1966
Murder on the Orient Express –
1974

FAY BAINTER

Matronly character player best known as supportive moms, silly housewives, and pompous old bags.

Jezebel – 1938 Our Town – 1940 The War Against Mrs Hadley – 1942 Cry "Havoc" – 1943 State Fair – 1945 The Children's Hour – 1962

LUCILLE BALL

A long, semi-successful career in Hollywood led this statuesque redhead to mega-stardom on TV. Best known for slapstick humor, also had a talent for the drier stuff and occasional dramatic flair.

Stage Door – 1937
The Affairs of Annabel – 1938
Five Came Back – 1939
The Big Street – 1942
Without Love – 1944
Miss Grant Takes Richmond – '49
Fancy Pants – 1950
Critic's Choice – 1963
Yours, Mine, and Ours – 1968

ANNE BANCROFT

Beautiful Italian-American leading lady began in smart apprentice roles of the 1950's, graduating into more versatile work up to her early death.

Don't Bother To Knock – 1952 Nightfall – 1956 The Miracle Worker – 1962 The Slender Thread – 1965 The Graduate – 1968 The Turning Point – 1977 Garbo Talks – 1984 Agnes of God – 1985 84 Charing Cross Road – 1987 Home For The Holidays – 1995

ELLEN BARKIN

Started out in quirky comedies, moved on into mature adult roles. A tough, sexy babe of the Stanwyck-Winger school, who can be tender when she wants to be.

Diner – 1982
Adventures of Buckaroo Bonzai – 84
The Big Easy – 1986
Desert Bloom – 1986
Sea of Love – 1989
This Boy's Life – 1993
Mad Dog Time – 1996
Ocean's 13 – 2007

DREW BARRYMORE

Adorable blonde child star of famed acting family who almost succumbed to excess then reinvented herself as a genuine player in Hollywood. Can be sweetly insightful or delightfully goofy, in the Hawn/Arthur vein.

E.T. – 1982
Irreconcilable Differences – 1984
Guncrazy – 1992
Bad Girls – 1994
Boys On the Side – 1995
Never Been Kissed – 1999
Riding in Cars With Boys – 2001
50 First Dates – 2004
Whip It – 2010

ETHEL BARRYMORE

Drew's great-aunt, began on the stage with her brothers John and Lionel in the top dramas of the day. Became film star late in life, playing mean old ladies and sympathetic mothers & grannies.

None But the Lonely Heart – 1944
The Spiral Staircase – 1946
The Paradine Case – 1948
Portrait of Jennie – 1949
Pinky – 1949
Kind Lady 1951

ANGELA BASSETT

Stunning leading lady who deserves better roles, preferably more from John Sayles & Spike Lee and nothing more by Tyler Perry.

Boys N The Hood – 1991
Malcolm X – 1992
What's Love Got to Do With It? –
1993
Strange Days – 1995
Waiting to Exhale – 1995
Contact – 1997
How Stella Got Her Groove... – '98
Sunshine State – 2002
Akeelah and the Bee – 2006

Toussaint – 2008

KATHY BATES

Burly brunette character actress, from the stage, specializing in tough lower-class broads, wifty housewives, and outright nuts.

Come Back To The 5 & Dime... '82

Misery – 1990
Fried Green Tomatoes – 1991
At Play in the Fields of the Lord – 91
A Home of Our Own – 1993
Dolores Claiborne – 1995
The War at Home – 1996
Titanic – 1997
Primary Colors – 1998
About Schmidt – 2002

ANNE BAXTER

Despite three memorable performances in a 10-year period, real stardom eluded this beauty, perhaps because of her innate hardness

The Magnificent Ambersons – '42

Five Graves to Cairo – 1943

Sunday Dinner for a Soldier – '44

The Razor's Edge – 1946

All About Eve – 1950

Carnival Story – 1954

Chase A Crooked Shadow – 1957

A Walk on the Wild Side – 1962

ANNETTE BENING

Lovely, gracious leading lady of the old style, specializing in period work and occasionally going outside her boundaries with varying success. Has a talent for putting men in their place, on and off the screen.

Valmont -- 1989
The Grifters - 1990
Bugsy - 1991
The American President - 1995
Richard III - 1995
The Siege - 1998
American Beauty - 1999
Being Julia - 2004
Running With Scissors - 2006
The Kids Are Alright - 2010

JOAN BENNETT

Dignified leading lady in film noirs and sophisticated comedies. Later reinvented herself in hip horror television soap.

Little Women – 1933 Man Hunt – 1941 **The Woman in the Window** – 1944 **Scarlet Street** – 1945 The Macomber Affair – 1947 **The Reckless Moment** – 1949 **Father of the Bride** – 1950 We're No Angels – 1955 **House of Dark Shadows** – **1970**

INGRID BERGMAN

Luminous Swedish beauty with up and down career, usually landing on her feet, on and off the screen. Best at either overly-sensitive, or leisurely-bold characters.

Intermezzo – 1939
Casablanca – 1943
For Whom The Bell Tolls – 1943
Gaslight – 1944
The Bells of St Mary's – 1945
Notorious – 1946
Anastasia – 1956
Indiscreet – 1958
Cactus Flower – 1969
A Woman Called Golda – 1982

KAREN BLACK

Offbeat leading lady and character player adept at self-affected loons and no-nonsense women. Likes to take chances, though results not always satisfactory or commercial.

Five Easy Pieces – 1970
Portnoy's Complaint – 1972
Rhinoceros – 1973
The Great Gatsby – 1974
Airport '75 – 1975
Trilogy of Terror – 1975
The Day of the Locust – '75
Nashville – 1975
Family Plot – 1976
In Praise of Older Women – 1979
Come Back to the 5 & Dime – '82

CATE BLANCHETT

Chameleon-like Australian character actress whose roles span all genres, including cross-dressing, elfqueenery, and assorted American accents.

Paradise Road – 1997
Oscar and Lucinda – 1997
Elizabeth – 1998
The Talented Mr. Ripley – 1999
The Gift – 2000
Bandits – 2001
Lord of the Rings – '01-'03
The Aviator – 2004
Notes on a Scandal – 2006
I'm Not There – 2007
Indiana Jones ... Crystal Skull – '08

SANDRA BULLOCK

Began in light comedy and adventure, eventually proved she could handle serious drama and higher-class humor, culminating in an Oscar.

Demolition Man – 1993
Speed – 1994
While You Were Sleeping – 1995
Practical Magic – 1998
Forces of Nature – 1999
28 Days – 2000
Miss Congeniality – 2000
Divine Secrets of Ya-Ya – 2002
Crash – 2004
Infamous – 2006

BILLIE BURKE

The very definition of a sillyass woman, she was the protegee and widow of master showman Florenz Ziegfeld. Starting in silents, then working steadily in mostly feather-brained parts up to 1960.

A Bill of Divorcement – 1932

Dinner at Eight – 1933

Becky Sharp – 1935

Topper – 1937

The Wizard of Oz – 1939

Man Who Came to Dinner – 1941

The Barkleys of Broadway – 1949

Father of the Bride – 1950

Pepe – 1960

ELLEN BURSTYN

Method actress who dives deep into her characters and brings out their hearts and souls, humanizing them. Like Davis, not afraid to look ugly or disheveled on camera either.

The Last Picture Show – 1971
The King of Marvin Gardens – '72
The Exorcist – 1973
Harry and Tonto – 1974
Alice Doesn't Live Here... – 1975
Resurrection – 1980
Twice in a Lifetime – 1985
When A Man Loves A Woman – '94
Requiem for a Dream – 2000
Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya... – '02

SPRING BYINGTON

Mistress of sweet old lady roles. They're kind of interchangeable but she's always a pleasure to see, like Wickes and Ritter.

Little Women – 1933
Ah Wilderness! – 1935
Meet John Doe – 1941
The Devil and Miss Jones – 1941
The Enchanted Cottage – 1945
In the Good Old Summertime – '49
Please Don't Eat The Daisies – '60

VERONICA CARTWRIGHT

She's the blonde sister of Angela of Lost in Space fame, the one specializing as kind of creepy, nervous dames in sci-fi and horror, with a couple of good dramas in between.

The Birds – 1963
Going South – 1978
Invasion of .. Body Snatchers – '78
Alien – 1979
The Right Stuff – 1983
Flight of the Navigator – 1986
The Witches of Eastwick – 1987
In The Bedroom – 2001
The Invasion – 2007

CYD CHARISSE

Not so much a great actress, but one of the best dancers Hollywood ever produced. A half-dozen must-see performances, particularly with Astaire and Kelly.

The Harvey Girls – 1946
Singin' in the Rain – 1952
The Band Wagon – 1953
Brigadoon – 1954
Invitation to the Dance – 1957
Silk Stockings – 1957
Two Weeks in Another Town – '62

CHER

From teen pop star to Oscar-winning leading lady, back to popular rocker, Cher has literally done it all.

Come Back to the 5 & Dime – '83

Silkwood – 1983

Mask – 1985

The Witches of Eastwick – 1987

Moonstruck – 1987

Suspect – 1987

Mermaids – 1990

Ready to Wear – 1994

Tea With Mussolini – 1999

JULIE CHRISTIE

Along with Redgrave, and to a lesser extent Tushingham, a defining presence in 1960's British film. Full-lipped blonde with often mordant sense of self and others, popularity waned in the late '70's, then rebounded in the 90's.

Darling – 1965
Dr. Zhivago – 1965
Fahrenheit 451 – 1966
Far From The Madding Crowd – '67
Petulia – 1967
Shampoo – 1973
Heaven Can Wait – 1977
The Railway-Station Man – 1991
Afterglow – 2000
Away From Her – 2005

SUSAN CLARK

At one time, one of the most popular actresses in America, on and off TV. Marriage and motherhood derailed her promising career but if it makes you happy....

Madigan – 1968 Coogan's Bluff – 1968 **The Forbin Project** – 1969 **Valdez is Coming** – 1970 The Skin Game – 1971 **The Midnight Man** – 1974 **Babe** – 1975 Night Moves – 1975 **Amelia Earhart** – 1976 Promises in the Dark – 1979

JILL CLAYBURGH

Classy late leading lady of the '70s, career took a downturn when she dared to reach 40. Returned to theater and resurfaced for occasional films and TV work. Mom of stage & television actress Lily Rabe.

The Terminal Man – 1974

Hustling – 1974

Gable and Lombard – 1976

Semi-Tough – 1977

Silver Streak – 1977

An Unmarried Woman – 1978

Starting Over – 1979

First Monday in October – '81

I'm Dancing As Fast As I Can – '82

Shy People – 1987

Bride's Maids – 2011

GLENN CLOSE

Homely but capable of great sensuality on film. Can play the most evil creature you can think of, and its polar opposite. This versatility has earned her several award nominations and a few wins.

World According to Garp – '82
The Big Chill – 1984
Jagged Edge – 1985
Fatal Attraction – 1987
Dangerous Liasions – 1988
Meeting Venus – 1990
The Paper – 1994
101 Dalmations – 1996
Mars Attacks! – 1997
Paradise Road – 1997
Evening – 2007

CLAUDETTE COLBERT

Short with wavy dark hair, big brown eyes, and bee-stung lips, she usually played high-class types and was especially good at both soaps and comedy.

The Sign of the Cross – 1932 I Cover the Waterfront – 1933 It Happened One Night – 1934 Cleopatra – 1934 Imitation of Life – 1934 Tovarich – 1937 The Palm Beach Story – 1942 Since You Went Away – 1944 The Egg and I – 1947 Three Came Home – 1950

CONSTANCE COLLIER

Grande dame of the old school, a handsome woman of the stage and silents who wound up playing many fussy spinsters and bossy old ladies.

Intolerance – 1918
Our Betters – 1933
Anna Karenina – 1935
Stage Door – 1937
Monsieur Beaucaire – 1946
An Ideal Husband – 1948
Rope – 1948

JOAN CRAWFORD

Hard-working, ballsy leading lady began as dancing ingenue in silents, moved on to high-class soaps and the occasional witty comedy. Popularized the 'shop-girl' cliché.

Sally, Irene, and Mary – 1925
Our Dancing Daughters – 1928
Rain – 1932
The Women – 1939
A Woman's Face – 1941
Mildred Pierce – 1945
Possessed – 1947
Flamingo Road – 1949
Sudden Fear – 1952
Johnny Guitar – 1954
Whatever Happened to
Baby Jane? – 1962

JAMIE LEE CURTIS

Daughter of screen legends became horror queen and top flight comedic heroine, with occasional forays into romance and motherhood.

Halloween – 1978
The Fog – 1980
Road Games – 1981
Love Letters – 1983
Trading Places --1983
Perfect – 1985
A Fish Called Wanda – 1988
Blue Steel – 1990
Queens Logic – 1991
My Girl – 1992
True Lies – 1994
House Arrest – 1995
Fierce Creatures – 1997
The Tailor of Panama – 2001

BETTE DAVIS

If not *the* greatest of all film leading ladies, certainly the trailblazer for <u>all</u> future female stars to follow. Took on the studios for better roles and eventually won. Box-office queen from late-30's through mid-40's.

Of Human Bondage – 1934
Jezebel – 1938
Dark Victory – 1939
All This and Heaven Too – 1940
The Letter – 1940
The Little Foxes – 1941
Now, Voyager – 1942
Deception – 1946
All About Eve – 1950
Payment on Demand – 1951
A Catered Affair – 1956
W. H. to Baby Jane? – 1962

GEENA DAVIS

Tall, toothy, & gangly, yet pretty heroine of a few offbeat comedies and several dramas, now in semiretirement.

Tootsie – 1982
Fletch – 1985
The Fly – 1986
Beetlejuice – 1988
The Accidental Tourist – '88
Earth Girls Are Easy – 1989
Quick Change – 1990
Thelma and Louise – 1991
A League of Their Own – 1992
Angie – 1994
Cutthroat Island – 1995
The Long Kiss Goodnight – 1996
Stuart Little – 1999

JUDY DAVIS

Australia's first really great leading lady of the latter half of the 20th Century had a strong early career but has since virtually fallen off the map.

My Brilliant Career – 1979
A Passage to India – 1984
High Tide – 1987
Georgia – 1988
Impromptu – 1989
Alice – 1990
Barton Fink – 1991
Naked Lunch – 1991
Husbands and Wives – 1992
Blood and Wine – 1996
Me and My Shadows – 2002
Marie Antoinette – 2008

DORIS DAY

Bright and sassy big-band singer who became a star with debut picture, Also had a knack for girlnest-door roles, later fun moms.

Romance on the High Seas – 1948
On Moonlight Bay – 1951
Calamity Jane – 1953
The Pajama Game – 1956
The Man Who Knew Too Much - '57
It Happened to Jane – 1958
Pillow Talk – 1959
Please Don't Eat .. Daisies – 1960
Midnight Lace – 1960
Move Over, Darling – 1964
Caprice – 1966
With Six You Get Eggroll – 1968

OLIVIA DE HAVILLAND

Romantic heroine with an ability to stretch into uncomfortable roles, not afraid to fail or look bad in the process. Later weight gain limited career to dowagers and queens.

The Adventures of Robin Hood – '38

Gone With The Wind – 1939

Private Lives of Elizabeth – 1939

In This Our Life – 1942

The Dark Mirror – 1946

To Each Our Own – 1946

The Snake Pit – 1948

The Heiress – 1949

My Cousin Rachel – 1953

The Ambassador's Daughter – 1957

Lady in a Cage – 1964

Hush, Hush Sweet Charlotte – '65

MARLENE DIETRICH

German sex symbol with a little something extra, specialng in exotic seductresses and villains.

The Blue Angel – 1930

Morocco – 1930

Shanghai Express – 1932

Blonde Venus – 1932

Desire – 1936

Destry Rides Again – 1939

Golden Earrings – 1947

A Foreign Affair – 1948

No Highway in the Sky – '51

Rancho Notorious – 1952

Around The World in 80 Days – '56

Touch of Evil – 1958

Judgement at Nuremburg – 1961

Just A Gigolo – 1978

FAYE DUNAWAY

Gorgeous, old-school diva whose demanding personality and bad role choices killed her career by the 80's.

Brief resurgence since.

Bonnie and Clyde – 1967
Hurry Sundown – 1967
The Thomas Crowne Affair – '68
Little Big Man – 1970
The Three Musketeers – 1973
Chinatown – 1974
The Towering Inferno – 1974
Three Days of the Condor – 1975
Network – 1976
The Eyes of Laura Mars – 1978
Mommie Dearest – 1981
Barfly – 1987
The Handmaid's Tale – 1989
Albino Alligator – 1996

IRENE DUNNE

Irish-American operetta singer who was an early Hollywood star in romantic melodramas, a few musicals, and some sharp comedies.

Cimarron – 1931
Back Street – 1932
Roberta – 1935
Magnicent Obsession – 1935
Showboat – 1936
Theodora Goes Wild – 1936
The Awful Truth – 1937
Love Affair – 1939
My Favorite Wife – 1940
Penny Serenade – 1941
Anna and the King – 1946
Life With Father – 1947
I Remember Mama – 1948

MIA FARROW

Doe-eyed ingenue blossomed under the love and direction of Woody Allen until his betrayal sent her career into free-fall.

Rosemary's Baby – 1968
John and Mary – 1969
See No Evil – 1971
The Great Gatsby – 1974
A Wedding – 1978
A Midsummer Night's Sex
Comedy – 1982
Zelig – 1983
Broadway Danny Rose – 1984
The Purple Rose of Cairo – '85
Hannah and her Sisters – 1986
Radio Days – 1987

Miami Rhapsody – 1995

SALLY FIELD

From Gidget to Mary Todd Lincoln, she has grown exponentially as a leading lady in American film.

Specializes in losers who lift themselves up and often succeed.

Maybe I'll Come Home... – '72

Sybil – 1976

Smokey and the Bandit – 1977

Norma Rae – 1979

Absence of Malice – 1981

Places in the Heart – 1984

Murphy's Romance – 1985

Steel Magnolias – 1989

Soapdish – 1991

Forrest Gump – 1994

Eye for an Eye – 1995

Lincoln – 2012

JANE FONDA

Henry's daughter started out in light comedy, then came Vietnam and her roles got darker & more powerful. Forget her private / public persona and *just watch her movies*.

Cat Ballou – 1966

Barefoot in the Park – 1967

They Shoot Horses... – 1969

Klute – 1971

A Doll's House – 1974

Julia – 1977

Coming Home – 1978

The China Syndrome – 1980

The Dollmaker – 1984

The Morning After – 1986

Stanley and Iris – 1990

Georgia Rule – 2004

JOAN FONTAINE

Began as scared little mouse hiding in big sis Olivia's shadow, grew to have a sense of humor and knack for high-class theater

A Damsel in Distress – 1937

The Women -1939

Rebecca – 1940

Suspicion – 1941

Jane Eyre – 1943

Frenchman's Creek – 1944

Letter from Unknown Woman – '48

Othello – 1952

Ivanhoe – 1952

The Bigamist – 1953

Casanova's Big Night – 1954

Tender is the Night – 1961

Voyage to the Bottom of Sea – '61

JODIE FOSTER

One of the handful of successful transitions from child to adult star, she began in Disney pap and has since played whores, gunslingers, and scientists to great effect.

Taxi Driver – 1976
Bugsy Malone – 1976
The Little Girl Who... – 1977
Foxes – 1980
Five Corners – 1987
The Accused – 1988
Silence of the Lambs – 1991
Little Man Tate – 1991
Maverick – 1994
Nell – 1994
Contact – 1997
Panic Room – 2002
The Brave One – 2007

GRETA GARBO

Swedish silent film star who became huge Hollywood romantic star of 1930's, then walked away, never to return.

Atonement of Gosta Berling – '25

Love – 1927

Flesh and the Devil – '27

Anna Christie – 1930

Mata Hari – 1931

Grand Hotel – 1932

Queen Christina – 1933

The Painted Veil – 1934

Anna Karenina – 1935

Camille – 1936

Ninotchka – 1939

Two-Faced Woman – 1941

AVA GARDNER

Breath-takingly beautiful leading lady took awhile to learn how to act but when she got a good role, the sparks eventually flew.

The Killers – 1947
The Hucksters – 1947
One Touch of Venus – 1948

Pandora & Flying Dutchman - '51
Showboat – 1951
Mogambo – 1953
The Barefoot Contessa – 1954
Bhowani Junction – 1956
The Sun Also Rises – 1957
On the Beach – 1959
Night of the Iguana – 1964
Seven Days in May – 1964
Earthquake – 1974

JUDY GARLAND

Musical comedy star who occasionally branched out successfully into serious drama.

Babes in Arms – 1939
The Wizard of Oz – 1939
For Me and My Gal – 1942
Meet Me in St Louis – 1944
The Clock – 1945
The Harvey Girls – 1946
The Pirate – 1947
Easter Parade – 1948
In the Good Old Summertime – '49
Summer Stock – 1950
A Star is Born – 1954
Judgement at Nuremburg – 1960
A Child is Waiting – 1962
I Could Go On Singing – 1963

WHOOPI GOLDBERG

The first black actress to consistently open pictures, even if they weren't very good ones; formerly a stand-up comic, latterly a chat show host.

The Color Purple – 1985
Jumpin' Jack Flash – 1987
Clara's Heart – 1987
The Long Walk Home – 1990
Ghost – 1990
Soapdish – 1991
Sister Act films – 1992 - '93
The Player – 1992
Corrina Corrina – 1994
Boys On the Side – 1995
The Associate – 1996
The Deep End of The Ocean – '99

GLORIA GRAHAME

Quirky blonde who often played sexy girlfriends and man-hungry types.

It's A Wonderful Life – 1946 Crossfire --- 1947 In A Lonely Place – 1950 The Bad & the Beautiful – 1952 The Big Heat – 1954 Oklahoma – 1956 Melvin and Howard – 1980

JEAN HARLOW

Brassy blonde bombshell of the 30's, died young, leaving much-imitated image and handful of films that still pack a punch.

Hell's Angels – 1930
The Public Enemy – 1930
Platinum Blonde – 1931
Red Dust – 1932
Dinner at Eight – 1933
Bombshell – 1933
The Girl From Missouri – 1934
China Seas 1935
Libeled Lady – 1936
Saratoga – 1937

GOLDIE HAWN

Bubbly blonde dancer and singer specializing in comedy

Cactus Flower – 1967

The Sugarland Express – 1973

Dollars – 1972

Shampoo – 1975

Foul Play - 1978

Seems Like Old Times – 1980

Private Benjamin – 1980

Best Friends – 1982

Swing Shift – 1984

Overboard – 1987

Deceived - 1991

Death Becomes Her – 1992

Everyone Says I Love You – '96

The First Wives Club – 1996

The Banger Sisters – 2002

AUDREY HEPBURN

Doe-eyed, much-missed leading lady, often playing poor waifs or average girls who need Svengalis to open them up to life.

Roman Holiday – 1953
Sabrina – 1954
War & Peace – 1956
Funny Face – 1957
The Nun's Story – 1959
Breakfast at Tiffany's – 1961
Charade – 1963
My Fair Lady – 1964
How to Steal a Million – 1965
Two for the Road – 1966
Wait Until Dark – 1967
Robin and Marian – 1976
Always – 1989

KATHARINE HEPBURN

Level-headed leading lady adept at both romantic comedy and drama, considered the best-ever on film.

A Bill of Divorcement – 1932 Little Women – 1933 Stage Door – 1937 Bringing Up Baby – 1938 **Holiday** - 1938 The Philadelphia Story – 1940 Woman of the Year – 1942 State of the Union – 1948 **Adam's Rib** – 1949 The African Queen – 1951 Summertime – 1955 Desk Set - 1957 Long Day's Journey ... Night – '62 The Lion in Winter – 1968 On Golden Pond – 1981

JUDY HOLLIDAY

Popular comedic leading lady of the Fifties who died way too young of cancer in 1965. Also famous for beating Bette Davis for Best Actress of 1950, still a kind of jaw-dropper.

Adam's Rib – 1949 Born Yesterday – 1950 The Marrying Kind – 1952 It Should Happen to You – 1953 Phffft! – 1954 The Solid Gold Cadillac – 1956 Bells Are Ringing – 1960

HOLLY HUNTER

Unrelentingly Southern leading lady who can be very neurotic or down-to-earth depending on the role.

Swing Shift – 1984
Raising Arizona – 1987
Broadcast News – 1987
Always – 1989
Miss Firecracker – 1989
Once Around – 1990
The Piano – 93
Copycat – 1995
Home for the Holidays – 1995
Living Out Loud – 1997
Thirteen – 2003
Top of the Lake – 2013

ANGELICA HUSTON

Daughter of greatness (director John) didn't start serious acting career til her 30's, specializing in hard-nosed characters and women of the world.

Prizzi's Honor – 1985
The Dead – 1987
Gardens of Stone – 1987
The Witches – 1989
Enemies: A Love Story – 1989
Crimes & Misdemeanors – 1989
The Grifters – 1991
The Addams Family – 1991
Agnes Brown – 1999
The Royal Tenenbaums – 2001
The Darjeeling Limited – 2007

ANGELINA JOLIE

Daughter of not-so-greatness who has proved to be the greater family commodity, usually as the toughest chick on screen

Gia – 1995
The Bone Collector – 1999
Girl, Interrupted – 1999
Lara Croft, Tomb Raider – 2001
Sky Captain ... – 2004
Mr & Mrs Smith – 2005
The Good Shepherd – 2006
A Mighty Heart – 2007
The Changeling – 2008
Salt – 2011

DIANE KEATON

Pretty, nervous all-American lead, beginning in Woody Allen films, later becoming fine dramatic player.

Sleeper – 1973
Love & Death – 1975
Annie Hall – 1977
Looking For Mr Goodbar – '77
Manhattan – 1979
Reds – 1981
Shoot the Moon – 1982
Crimes of the Heart – 1986
Baby Boom – 1987
The First Wive's Club – 1996
Marvin's Room – 1996
Something's Gotta Give – 2003
The Family Stone – 2005

MADELEINE KAHN

Trained soprano who had a gift for playing annoying, or neurotic, yet sexy women, mostly for Mel Brooks.

What's Up, Doc? – 1972
Paper Moon – 1973
Blazing Saddles – 1974
Young Frankenstein – 1974
High Anxiety – 1977
Yellowbeard – 1983
Clue -- 1985
Betsy's Wedding – 1990
Mixed Nuts – 1994
Nixon – 1995

GRACE KELLY

Stunning blonde beauty of the 50's, whose brief but major Hollywood career featured some versatility.

High Noon – 1952 Mogambo – 1953 Rear Window – 1954 The Country Girl – 1954 To Catch A Thief – 1955 High Society – 1956 The Swan – 1956

DEBORAH KERR

Rhymes with 'star', as they first intro'd her in America. She *soitanly* was, with beaucoup Academy nods, but curiously never won a competitive one.

The Life & Death of Col Blimp – '43
Perfect Strangers – 1944
Black Narcissus – 1946
King Solomon's Mines – 1950
Young Bess – 1953
From Here to Eternity – 1953
The End of the Affair – 1955
The King & I – 1956
An Affair to Remember – 1957
The Journey – 1959
The Sundowners – 1960
The Innocents – 1961
Night of the Iguana – 1964

NICOLE KIDMAN

Aussie leading lady determined to make it as a top star & did so with progressively better work.

Flirting – 1988 **Dead Calm** – 1990 Billy Bathgate – 1991 Far and Away – 1992 Malice - 1993 **To Die For – 1995** The Peacemaker – 1997 Eyes Wide Shut – 1999 Moulin Rouge! – 2001 The Others -2001The Hours -2002The Human Stain – 2003 Cold Mountain – 2003 The Interpreter – 2005 The Invasion -2007

ELSA LANCHESTER

Goggle-eyed, pouty-lipped Englishwoman made good in America with a series of choice character work well into old age.

Private Life of Henry VIII- 1933
David Copperfield - 1935
Bride of Frankenstein - 1935
Ladies in Retirement - 1941
Lassie Come Home - 1943
The Spiral Staircase - 1946
The Secret Garden - 1949
Come to the Stable - 1949
Bell Book & Candle - 1958
Witness for the Prosecution - '58
Mary Poppins - 1964
That Darn Cat! - 1965
Murder by Death - 1976

JESSICA LANGE

Former fashion model, really made a mark with first biopic and kept on going strong through the 80' & 90's

The Postman... Rings Twice – '81

Frances – 1982

Tootsie – 1982

Country – 1984

Sweet Dreams – 1985

Music Box – 1989

Cape Fear – 1991

Night and the City – 1992

Blue Sky – 1994

Rob Roy – 1995

A Thousand Acres – 1997

Cousin Bette – 1998

Titus – 1999

Big Fish – 2003

JANET LEIGH

Slender yet curvy blonde who usually played girl-next-door types, then graduated to tougher dames.

Mom of Jamie Lee Curtis.

That Forsyte Woman – 1949

Holiday Affair – 1949

Angels in the Outfield – 1951

Houdini – 1953

My Sister Eileen – 1955

Touch of Evil – 1958

Psycho – 1960

Bye Bye Birdie – 1962

The Manchurian Candidate – '64

Hello Down There – 1968

One is a Lonely Number – 1972

The Fog – 1980

VIVIEN LEIGH

Fragile beauty who preferred the stage to films, so enjoy what's available.

Fire Over England – 1936

Dark Journey – 1937

The Streets of London – 1938

A Yank at Oxford – 1938

Gone With The Wind – 1939

Waterloo Bridge – 1940

Lady Hamilton – 1941

Caesar and Cleopatra – 1945

A Streetcar Named Desire – 1951

Roman Spring of Mrs Stone – '61

Ship of Fools – 1965

LAURA LINNEY

Wry blonde, usually plays the smartest person in the room. Often long-suffering or bittersweet.

Tales of the City (TV) – 90's
Primal Fear – 1996
Absolute Power – 1997
The Truman Show – 1998
The House of Mirth – 2000
You Can Depend On Me – 2000
The Mothman Prophecies – 2002
Laramie Project – 2002
Love, Actually – 2003
Kinsey – 2004
The Squid and The Whale – 2005
John Adams – 2005
The Savages – 2007

CAROLE LOMBARD

Sexy blonde smartass who also essayed a couple of strong dramatic roles before her untimely death. Her widower was Clark Gable.

Hearts and Spurs – 1925 Show People – 1928 No Man of Her Own – 1932 Bolero – 1934 Twentieth Century – 1934 Hands Across The Table – 1935 My Man Godfrey – 1936 Nothing Sacred – 1937 Made For Each Other – 1938 Vigil in the Night – 1940 Mr and Mrs Smith – 1941 To Be or Not To Be – 1942

SOPHIA LOREN

Exotic Italian beauty who went from decorative presence to first-rate drama queen, if only for a decade.

Woman of the River – 1955

Boy on a Dolphin – 1957

Houseboat – 1958

Desire Under the Elms – '58

That Kind of Woman – '59

A Breath of Scandal – 1961

Two Women – 1961

Yesterday Today & Tomorrow

– 1963

Marriage Italian Style – '64

Arabesque – 1966

Sunflower – 1970

A Special Day – 1977

Ready to Wear – 1995

MYRNA LOY

Began in silents as a variety of Oriental (!) temptresses, blessed with upper-class voice that gave her better choice of roles, usually heroic.

Don Juan – 1926
When Ladies Meet – 1933
Manhattan Melodrama – 1934
The Thin Man films – 1934
Libeled Lady – 1936
Test Pilot – 1938
The Rains Came – 1939
The Best Years of Our Lives – '46
The Bachelor and Bobbysoxer – '47
Mr. Blandings Builds... – 1948
Cheaper By the Dozen – 1950
Lonelyhearts – 1958
Just Tell Me What You Want – '80
Summer Solstice – 1981

SHIRLEY MACLAINE

Irrepressible, multi-talented redhead in the early days, older & wiser in her latter years.

The Trouble With Harry – 1955
Around The World in 80 Days – '56
Some Came Running – 1958
The Apartment – 1959
My Geisha – 1962
Gambit – 1966
Sweet Charity – 1968
Desperate Characters – 1971
The Turning Point – 1977
Being There – 1979
Terms of Endearment – 1983
Madame Sousatzka – 1986
Steel Magnolias – 1989
Postcards from the Edge – 1990

FRANCES MCDORMAND

Slim, awkward-looking leading lady, particularly in the films of her husband Joel Coen, can do more with fifteen minutes screen-time than others in an hour.

Blood Simple – 1984
Raising Arizona – 1987
Mississippi Burning – 1988
Darkman – 1990
Fargo – 1996
Paradise Road – 1997
Madeleine – 1998
Almost Famous – 2000
The Wonder Boys – 2000
Laurel Canyon – 2002
North Country – 2005
Miss Pettigrew... – 2008

DOROTHY MCGUIRE

Plain-pretty leading lady of immense emotional presence without being hammy. Played a lot of moms and loving wives / grandmas.

The Enchanted Cottage – 1945
A Tree Grows in Brooklyn – 1945
The Spiral Staircase – 1946
Gentlemen's Agreement – 1947
Three Coins in a Fountain – 1954
Friendly Persuasion – 1956
Old Yeller – 1957
A Summer Place – 1959
Swiss Family Robinson – 1960
Incredible Journey of Dr Meg – '79

HAYLEY MILLS

Blonde British tomboy brightened the early 60's in a series of fun family-oriented films, then abruptly ended that career with brief topless scene in flick about newlyweds!

Tiger Bay – 1959
Pollyanna – 1960
The Parent Trap – 1961
Whistle Down The Wind – '61
Summer Magic – 1962
The Chalk Garden – 1964
The Moonspinners – 1965
The Trouble With Angels – 1966
The Family Way – 1966
The Flame Trees of Thika – 1981

HELEN MIRREN

Journeywoman character actress didn't hit the big time until she was in her 50's. Lean and tough, she's played whores, killers, and queens.

Age of Consent – 1970
O Lucky Man – 1973
Excalibur – 1981
The Long Good Friday – 1981
2010 – 1984
Cal – 1984
The Mosquito Coast – 1986
The Cook, The Thief, His Wife, & Her Lover... – '89
The Comfort of Strangers – 1990
Prime Suspect series – 1990's
The Madness of King George – 2005
Queen Elizabeth I & II – '05 & '06
Red – 2010

MARILYN MONROE

Not the greatest but certainly the most famous 50's leading lady, this tragic blonde specialized in musical comedy and showed promise in drama.

Love Happy – 1949
All About Eve – 1950
Don't Bother To Knock – 1952
Monkey Business – 1952
Niagara – 1952
Gentlemen Prefer Blondes – '53
How to Marry a Millionaire – '53
River of No Return – 1954
The Seven-Year Itch – 1955
Bus Stop – 1956
The Prince & the Showgirl – '57
Some Like It Hot – 1959
The Misfits – 1961

JULIANNE MOORE

Pretty redhead who likes to take on challenging roles. Like Ryan and Streep, began in soaps.

Hand That Rocks The Cradle – '92

Short Cuts – 1993

Vanya on 42^{nd} Street – 1994

Safe – 1995

Boogie Nights – 1997

The Big Lebowski – 1998

The End of the Affair – 1999

Evolution – 2001

Hannibal – 2001

Far From Heaven – 2002

The Hours – 2002

Children of Men – 2006

Blindness -2008

Game Change – 2011

AGNES MOOREHEAD

A charter member of Orson Welles' drama troupe on stage, radio, and film, this sharp-featured character player excelled at shrews & spinsters, despite a flair for comedy.

Citizen Kane – 1941
The Magnicent Ambersons – '42
Journey Into Fear – 1943
Jane Eyre – 1944
Our Vines Have Tender Grapes – 44
Dark Passage – 1947
Johnny Belinda – 1948
Magnificent Obsession – 1954
Raintree County – 1957
Pollyanna – 1960
Hush, Hush Sweet Charlotte – '64
Charlotte's Web (voice) – 1973

SAMANTHA MORTON

Offbeat-looking and role-taking leading lady with occasional character roles received first award notice as mute lover of a cad, played unsurprisingly by Sean Penn.

Jane Eyre – 1997 Jesus' Son – 1999 **Sweet and Lowdown** – 1999 **Minority Report** – 2002 **In America** – 2002 Code 46 – 2003 **The Libertine** – 2004 Elizabeth, The Golden Age – '07 **Control** – '07

JEANNE MOREAU

She is the French Bette D. in both looks and onscreen demeanor, with the big, soulful eyes and the downturned pout of a mouth, specializing in romantic melodrama.

The Lovers – 1959
Les Liasions Dangereuses – 1960
Jules and Jim – 1961
Diary of A Chambermaid – 1964
The Bride Wore Black – 1967
The Great Catherine – 1968
Monte Walsh – 1970
Going Places – 1974
The Last Tycoon – 1976
Until the End of the World – '91

MILDRED NATWICK

Sharp-faced character actress in many comedies and a few dramas.

The Enchanted Cottage - 1945 Yolanda and the Thief - 1947 Cheaper by the Dozen - 1950 The Quiet Man - 1952 The Trouble with Harry - 1955 Barefoot in the Park - 1967 If It's Tuesday, This Must Be Belgium - '67 The Snoop Sisters - 1974 Daisy Miller - 1974 Dangerous Liasions - 1988

PATRICIA NEAL

Stylish brunette leading lady, usually with a serious demeanor, won her sole Best Actress as an earthy tease.

The Fountainhead – 1949
The Hasty Heart – 1950
The Day the Earth Stood Still – '51
A Face in the Crowd – 1957
Breakfast At Tiffany's – 1961
Hud – 1963
The Subject Was Roses – 1968
The Homecoming – 1971
Ghost Story – 1981
Cookie's Fortune – 1999

KIM NOVAK

The girl with the extraordinary eyes. Not the greatest actress on earth but always alluring and willing to play down her innate glamor.

Phffft – 1954

Man With The Golden Arm – '55

Picnic – 1955

Vertigo – 1958

Bell Book & Candle – 1958

Strangers When We Meet – 1960

The Notorious Landlady – 1962

Kiss Me Stupid – 1964

Legend of Lylah Clare – 1968

Satan's Triangle – 1975

Just A Gigolo – 1979

Liebestraum – 1991

MAUREEN O'HARA

Titian-haired, often reluctant Irish love goddess got better as she got older. Last role as John Candy's critical mom was a treat.

Hunchback of Notre Dame – 1939

How Green Was My Valley – 1941

The Black Swan – 1942

The Spanish Main – 1945

Miracle on 37th Street – 1947

The Quiet Man – 1952

Lady Godiva – 1955

Our Man in Havana – 1959

The Parent Trap – 1961

Spencer's Mountain – 1963

The Red Pony – 1972

Only the Lonely – 1991

GERALDINE PAGE

Stage diva who deigned make a few movies, mostly as Southern eccentrics & snobs.

Honcho – 1954
Summer and Smoke – 1961
Sweet Bird of Youth – 1962
You're A Big Boy Now – 1967
Whatever Happ'd to Aunt Alice – '69
The Beguiled – 1971
Pete & Tillie – 1972
Day of the Locust – 1975
Nasty Habits – 1976
Interiors – 1978
The Pope of Greenwich Vil – 1984
White Nights – 1985
The Trip to Bountiful – 1985

ELEANOR PARKER

Classy beauty who never quite made it to the top despite several Oscar nods. Wound up on TV playing moms and, ironically, has-beens.

Of Human Bondage – 1946
The Voice of the Turtle – 1947

Caged – 1950

Detective Story – 1951

Interrupted Melody – 1955

Man With The Golden Arm – '55

The Sound of Music – 1964

Home for the Holidays – 1972

She's Dressed to Kill – 1979

MICHELLE PFEIFFER

Had the great luck of starting out in a series of cult classics, gradually becoming a better and better actress, making her beauty irrelevant.

Scarface – 1983
Into the Night – 1984
Ladyhawke – 1985
Sweet Liberty – 1986
The Witches of Eastwick – 1987
The Fabulous Baker Boys – 1989
Frankie & Johnny – 1991
Dangerous Minds – 1995
Up Close & Personal – 1996
One Fine Day – 1996
White Oleander – 2002
Hairspray – 2007
Dark Shadows – 2011

CHARLOTTE RAMPLING

This Bacall of the 70's made a name for herself in the hard stuff with a few forays into bone-dry humor.

The Knack... – 1965
Georgy Girl – 1966
The Damned – 1969
The Night Porter – 1974
Zardoz – 1974
Farewell, My Lovely – 1975
The Verdict – 1982
Stardust Memories – 1980
Wings of a Dove – 1997
The Cherry Orchard – 1999
Under the Sand – 2000
Swimming Pool – 2003

VANESSA REDGRAVE

Gifted daughter of famed theatrical family, & mother of more talent, all framed in tragedy and self-imposed controversy. Prefers stage to film.

Morgan! – 1966
Blow Up – 1966
Camelot – 1967
Isadora – 1968
The Devils – 1971
Mary Queen of Scots – 1972
Julia – 1977
Yanks – 1979
Playing for Time – 1981
Wetherby – 1986
Howards End – 1991
Deep Impact – 1995
Mrs. Dalloway – 1998

LEE REMICK

Clear-blueyed blonde could play sexpots and 'nice girls' with ease. Could deliver a line like nobody else.

A Face in the Crowd – 1957
The Long Hot Summer – 1958
Anatomy of a Murder – 1959
Experiment in Terror – 1961
Days of Wine & Roses – 1963
The Wheeler Dealers – 1964
Baby, The Rain Must Fall – '65
No Way to Treat a Lady – 1967
A Delicate Balance – 1973
Jennie – 1975
The Omen – 1976
The Competition – 1980
Haywire – 1980

ANNE REVERE

Homely stage actress who played a few strong roles before refusing to rat on friends to HUAC.

The Song of Bernadette – 1943
The Keys of the Kingdom – 1944
National Velvet – 1944
Dragonwyck – 1946
Body and Soul – 1947
Gentleman's Agreement – '48
A Place in the Sun – 1951
Birch Interval – 1976

DEBBIE REYNOLDS

Bright-eyed song and dance gal began doing more drama as she aged. Mom of Carrie Fisher.

June Bride – 1948

Singin' in the Rain – 1952

The Affairs of Dobie G. – 1953

Susan Slept Here – 1954

The Tender Trap – 1955

A Catered Affair – 1957

Tammie & the Bachelor – 1957

The Gazebo – 1959

How the West Was Won – 1962

Unsinkable Molly Brown – 1964

Divorce American Style – 1967

Charlotte's Web (voice) – 1972

Mother – 1996

In & Out – 1997

MIRANDA RICHARDSON

Short, pretty, British blonde. Another acting chameleon who can play very nice ladies and very evil ones.

Dance With A Stranger – 1984
Blackadder – 1986
Empire of the Sun – 1987
Enchanted April – 1991
The Crying Game – 1992
Damage – 1992
Tom & Viv – 1995
Spider – 2002
The Hours – 2002
Wah Wah – 2005
Fred Claus – 2007

THELMA RITTER

Sharp-tongued or occasionally pathetic character actress. Several nods but no wins, much to her understandable chagrin

Miracle on 34th Street – 1947
A Letter to Three Wives – 1949
All About Eve – 1950
The Mating Season 1951
Pickup on South Street – 1953
Titanic – 1953
Rear Window – 1954
A Hole in the Head – 1959
Pillow Talk – 1959
The Misfits – 1961
Birdman of Alcatraz – 1962

JULIA ROBERTS

Toothy, not-so-pretty woman's girlnext-door persona wore thin by end of 90's, revealing icy cold interior.

Steel Magnolias – 1989
Pretty Woman – 1990
Sleeping With the Enemy – 1990
Dying Young – 1991
My Best Friend's Wedding – '97
Runaway Bride – 1999
Erin Brockovich – 2000
The Mexican – 2001
Closer – 2004
Charlie Wilson's War – 2007
Larry Crowne – 2011

GINGER ROGERS

Superb dancer who knew a thing or two about snappy line delivery matured into capable dramatic actress, but should kept hoofing.

42nd Street – 1933
Gold Diggers of 1933
Flying Down to Rio – 1933
Top Hat – 1935
Swing Time – 1936
Stage Door – 1937
Carefree – 1938
Bachelor Mother – 1939
Kitty Foyle – 1940
The Major and the Minor – 1942
The Barkleys of Broadway – '49
Monkey Business – 1952
First Traveling Saleslady – 1956

GENA ROWLANDS

Sultry, husky-voiced blonde is like a throwback to the film noir period. Specializes in sad, broken women. Widow of director John Cassavettes.

A Child is Waiting – 1962
Tony Rome – 1967
Faces – 1968
Minnie & Moskowitz – 1971
Woman Under the Influence – '75
The Brink's Job – 1978
Gloria – 1980
Tempest – 1983
Another Woman – 1988
Once Around – 1991
Night on Earth – 1991
Unhook the Stars – 1996
Paulie – 1998
Taking Lives – 2004

ROSALIND RUSSELL

Patrician yet earthy, sexy brunette equally good at playing bitches, stately dames, and madcap heroines.

Night Must Fall – 1937
The Citadel – 1938
The Women – 1939
His Girl Friday – 1940
The Feminine Touch – 1941
My Sister Eileen – 1942
Roughly Speaking – 1945
Sister Kenny – 1947
The Velvet Touch – 1948
Picnic – 1956
Auntie Mame – 1958
Gypsy – 1962
The Trouble With Angels – 1967

MEG RYAN

Engaging blonde cutie pie, the It Girl of the 90's, has since fallen out of favor and will probably slink back to TV with her trademark cute shrug.

Top Gun – 1986
Promised Land – 1988
When Harry Met Sally – 1989
Joe Versus the Volcano – 1990
The Doors – 1991
Sleepless in Seattle – 1993
I.Q. – 1994
When A Man Loves A Woman - '94
Courage Under Fire – 1996
You've Got Mail – 1998
City of Angels – 1998
In the Cut – 2003
The Women – 2008

WINONA RYDER

She began acting life as endearing teenage misfit, wound up being not-so endearing adult misfit. Her will to act seemed to go with it. A waste.

Lucas – 1986

Beetlejuice – 1988

Heathers – 1989

Edward Scissorhands – 1990

Welcome Home, Roxy... – '90

Mermaids – 1990

Bram Stoker's Dracula – 1992

The Age of Innocence – 1993

Little Women – 1994

Reality Bites – 1994

The Crucible – 1996

Girl, Interrupted – 1999

Simone – 2002

SUSAN SARANDON

Began career as somewhat goofy naif, then gradually matured into Loy-like leading lady.

The Great Waldo Pepper – 1975 **Rocky Horror Picture Show – '75** Atlantic City – 1980 **Tempest** – 1982 The Hunger – 1983 **Compromising Positions** – 1985 Witches of Eastwick – 1987 Bull Durham – 1988 Thelma & Louise – 1991 Light Sleeper – 1992 Lorenzo's Oil – 1992 **Dead Man Walking** – 1995 Illuminata – 1999 The Banger Sisters – 2002 The Lovely Bones – 2008

SIMONE SIGNORET

Sultry, smart French romantic of the 50's had lost her looks by the 70's, but still worth watching.

Casque d'Or – 1952
Therese Raquin – 1953
Les Diaboliques – 1954
Witches of Salem – 1957
Room at the Top – 1958
Term of Trial – 1962
Ship of Fools – 1965
Games – 1967
Madame Rosa – 1977
I Sent A Letter to My Love – '80

MAGGIE SMITH

Shakespearean leading lady with distinct, clipped vocal delivery whether Cockney, Scottish, or faded Southern belle.

Othello – 1965

Prime of Miss Jean Brodie – 1969

Travels With My Aunt – 1972

Love and Pain... – 1973

California Suite – 1978

Clash of the Titans – 1981

A Private Function – 1984

A Room With A View – 1986

Lonely Pash of Judy Hearn – '87

Sister Act – 1992

Richard III – 1995

Gosford Park – 2001

Divine Secrets of Ya Ya – 2002

Harry Potter films

SISSY SPACEK

Freckle-faced Southern blonde with a knack for somewhat offbeat roles.

Badlands – 1973
Carrie – 1976
Three Women – 1976
Coal Miner's Daughter – 1980
Raggedy Man – 1981
Missing – 1982
The River – 1984
Marie – 1985
Crimes of the Heart – 1986
The Long Walk Home – 1990
JFK – 1991
The Grass Harp – 1996
Blast From the Past – 1998
In The Bedroom – 2001

BARBARA STANWYCK

The originator of all tough chick roles to come down the pike could also be a compelling romantic lead and first-rate smartmouth.

The Miracle Woman – 1931
Night Nurse – 1931
The Purchase Price – 32
Baby Face – 1933
Stella Dallas – 1937
Remember the Night – 1940
Meet John Doe – 1941
The Lady Eve – 1941
Ball of Fire – 1941
Double Indemnity – 1944
Strange Love of Martha Ivers – '46
Sorry, Wrong Number – 1948
Executive Suite – 1952

MERYL STREEP

Amalgam of Davis & Hepburn with a bit of de Havilland thrown in. Phenomenal talent for accents.

Julia – 1977 Kramer vs. Kramer – 1979 Manhattan - 1979 Holocaust – 1980 French Lieutenant's Woman – 81 Sophie's Choice – 1983 Silkwood – 1984 Out of Africa – 1986 A Cry in the Dark – 1987 Postcards From the Edge – 1990 **Death Becomes Her** – 1995 One True Thing – 1998 Angels in America – 2002 The Devil Wears Prada – 2005 The Iron Lady -2010

TILDA SWINTON

Manages to be ethereal and hardedged at the same time. Refuses to be typecast, has played everything.

Caravaggio – 1986
The Last of England – 1988
Edward II – 1991
Orlando – 1992
Wittgenstein – 1993
Female Perversions – 1996
The Deep End – 2001
Adaptation – 2002
Young Adam – 2003
Broken Flowers – 2005
Michael Clayton – 2007
Curious Case of Ben. Button – 2008

LILI TAYLOR

Earnest, plain-jane character. Began playing heroines but has branched out into occasional meanies.

Say Anything... – 1989
Dogfight – 1991
Household Saints – 1993
Short Cuts – 1993
Mrs. Parker... – 1994
I Shot Andy Warhol – 1996
Pecker – 1998
The Haunting – 1999
Gaudi Afternoon – 2001
Notorious Bettie Page – 2005
The Conjuring – 2013

ELIZABETH TAYLOR

Quintessential Hollywood beauty beginning as cute child star, sadly ending as series of bitches.

Lassie Come Home – 1943 National Velvet – 1944 Father of the Bride – 1950 A Place in the Sun – 1951 The Last Time I Saw Paris – 1955 Giant - 1955 Raintree County – 1957 Cat on a Hot Tin Roof – 1958 Butterfield 8 – 1960 Cleopatra – 1962 Who's Afraid of V. Woolf? – 1966 Reflections in a Golden Eye – '67 The Mirror Crack'd – 1980 Between Friends – 1982 Malice in Wonderland – 1984

LILY TOMLIN

One of the first feminist comedians, wound up in memorable screwball comic and competent dramatic roles, largely via Robert Altman.

Nashville – 1975
The Late Show – 1977
Nine to Five – 1980
Incredible Shrinking Woman – '81
All of Me – 1984
Big Business – 1988
Search for Signs of Intelligent... '92
Short Cuts – 1993
Flirting With Disaster – 1996
Tea With Mussolini – 1999
I Heart Huckabees – 2004
A Prairie Home Companion – '06

CICELY TYSON

Film's first leading lady to live up to the promise of Dorothy Dandridge, she made a name for herself in mostly dignified roles.

A Man Called Adam – 1966
The Comedians – 1967
The Heart is a Lonely Hunter – '68
Sounder – 1972
The Autobiography of
Miss Jane Pittman. – 1974
The Blue Bird – 1976
The River Niger – 1976
Bustin' Loose – 1981
Fried Green Tomatoes – 1991
The Grass Harp – 1996
Diary of a Mad Black Woman – '05
Madea's Family Reunion – 2006

JULIE WALTERS

Working-class heroine, usually in supporting roles. Can be adorable, maternal, or downright creepy.

Educating Rita – 1983
Prick Up Your Ears – 1987
Personal Services – 1987
Buster – 1988
Stepping Out – 1991
Intimate Relations – 1996
Billy Elliot – 2000
Calendar Girls – 2003
Wah Wah – 2005
Mamma Mia – 2008
Harry Potter films

EMILY WATSON

Bright-eyed, doll-like British leading lady with propensity for off-beat roles and cheerfulness.

Breaking the Waves – 1996 The Boxer – 1997 Hilary and Jackie – 1998 Cradle Will Rock – 1999 Gosford Park – 2001 Equilibrium – 2002 Wah Wah – 2005 Synedoche, NY – 2007 The Water Horse – 2007

SIGOURNEY WEAVER

Versatile, tall, lean brunette adept as both adventurers and loving moms.

Alien films – 1979, 86, 90 Ghostbusters – 1984 Gorillas in the Mist – 1988 Working Girl – 1988 Death and the Maiden – 1994 **Dave** – 1993 **Copycat** – 1995 The Ice Storm – 1997 Galaxy Quest – 1999 Heartbreakers – 2001 Holes - 2003The Village – 2004 **Imaginary Heroes** – 2004 Infamous - 2006Avatar -2008

MARY WICKES

Lanky, & plain, this long-working character actress specialized in nervous / nervy nurses, nuns, housekeepers, grannies, etc

Man Who Came to Dinner – '42
Now, Voyager – 1942
June Bride – 1948
On Moonlight Bay – 1951
It Happened to Jane – 1959
The Music Man – 1962
The Trouble With Angels – '67
Napoleon and Samantha – 1972
Postcards from the Edge – '90
Sister Act I & 2 – '92 & '93
Little Women – 1994

DIANNE WIEST

Rail-thin early on, became pleasingly plump character actress specializing in neurotics and wise-women.

Occasionally gets the guy.

Independence Day – 1983
Footloose – 1984
Hannah and Her Sisters – 1986
Parenthood – 1989
Little Man Tate – 1991
Bullets Over Broadway – 1994
Law & Order series – mid-90's
The Associate – 1996
The Birdcage – '96
I Am Sam – 2001

DEBRA WINGER

The Garbo of the 80's – early 90's, in that she left a successful career at its height, only to come back sporadically when she wanted to.

Urban Cowboy – 1980

An Officer & Gentleman – 1982

Mike's Murder – 1982

Terms of Endearment – 1983

Legal Eagles – 1986

Black Widow – 1987

Betrayed – 1988

Everybody Wins – 1990

Leap of Faith – 1992

A Dangerous Woman – 1993

Shadowlands – 1993

Forget Paris – 1995

Big Bad Love – 2001

KATE WINSLET

Full-figured, full-lipped blonde began in intriguing ingenue roles then gradually became thinking adult with role choices to prove it.

Heavenly Creatures – 1994
Sense & Sensibility – 1995
Hamlet – 1996
Titanic – 1997
Quills – 2000
Iris – 2001
Eternal Sunshine of Spotless – '04
Little Children – 2006
Revolutionary Road – 2008
Mildred Pierce – 2010
Contagion – 2011

ALFRE WOODARD

Character actress who has played victims, ghetto trash, nice moms, lawyers, housewives, & others.

Cross Creek – 1983
Scrooged – 1988
Miss Firecracker – 1989
Grand Canyon – 1991
Passion Fish – 1992
Rich in Love – 1992
Heart and Souls – 1993
Crooklyn – 1994
Primal Fear – 1996
Down in the Delta – 1998
The Wishing Tree – 1999
What's Cooking? – 2000
Beauty Shop – 2005

JOANNE WOODWARD

Pretty, slim blonde with gift for playing people on the margins of society, with occasional A-types. In many with late husb. Paul Newman.

A Kiss Before Dying – 1956
Three Faces of Eve – 1957
The Long Hot Summer – 1958
Paris Blues – 1961
A Fine Madness – 1966
Rachel, Rachel – 1968
WUSA – 1970
Effect of Gamma-Rays... – 1972
Sybil – 1976
Do You Remember Love? – 1985
Mr & Mrs Bridge – 1990
Philadelphia – 1993
The Age of Innocence (voice) – '94

ROBIN WRIGHT

Lovely blonde leading lady who has always been just bubbling under stardom, but prefers art-house.

The Princess Bride – 1987
State of Grace – 1990
The Playboys – 1992
Forrest Gump – 1994
Moll Flanders – 1996
Message in a Bottle – 1999
Unbreakable – 2000
The Pledge – 2001
White Oleander – 2002
Home at the End of World – '04
Breaking & Entering – 2006
House of Cards – 2013

LORETTA YOUNG

Wide-eyed brunette began as platinum doll then gained cred in natural dark hair. Later hosted popular 50's TV anthology series.

Eternally Yours – 1939

The Lady from Cheyenne – 1941

Bedtime Story – 1942

Along Came Jones – 1945

The Stranger – 1946

The Farmer's Daughter – 1947

The Bishop's Wife – 1947

Rachel and the Stranger – 1948

Come to the Stable – 1949

Cause for Alarm – 1951

RENEE ZELLWEGGER

Texas gal with squinched eyes who specializes in romantic comedies and melodramas with equal aplomb.

Dazed & Confused – 1993
Love and a .45 – 1994
Jerry Maguire – 1996
The Whole Wide World – '96
One True Thing – 1998
Nurse Betty – 2000
Bridget Jones' Diary – 2001
White Oleander – 2002
Chicago – 2002
Cold Mountain – 2003
Down With Love – 2003
Miss Potter – 2006
Bee Movie (voice) – 2007

Honorable Mentions

ANNA MAGNANI
Open City
The Rose Tattoo

CATHY TYSON

Mona Lisa

CANDACE HILLIGOSS
Carnival of Souls

DOROTHY DANDRIDGE Carmen

TURA SATANA
Faster Pussycat, Kill, Kill!

ETHEL MERMAN

It's a Mad, Mad... World

HATTIE MCDANIEL Gone With the Wind

HILLARY SWANK
Boys Don't Cry
Million Dollar Baby

RUTH HUSSEY
The Philadelphia Story
The Uninvited

DIANA ROSS Lady Sings The Blues

INGER STEVENS
The World, The Flesh, & The
Devil

TALULLAH BANKHEAD Lifeboat GLORIA SWANSON

Queen Kelly

Sunset Boulevard

JUDI DENCH Mrs. Brown Notes on a Scandal

MARIE DRESSLER Min & Bill **Dinner at Eight**

CHRISTINE LAHTI
Running on Empty
Swing Shift

LANA TURNER
The Bad & The Beautiful
Peyton Place

MAUREEN O'SULLIVAN Tarzan, The Ape Man Hannah and Her Sisters

LESLIE CARON **An American in Paris** Gigi

JANE POWELL **Royal Wedding**

MELANIE GRIFFITH
Working Girl

EDITH MASSEY
Female Trouble

TIPPI HEDREN
The Birds

GREER GARSON

Mrs Miniver

Random Harvest

KATE HUDSON Almost Famous

KAILAUNI LEE
The Midwife's Tale

ROSALIND CASH The Omega Man

PATTY DUKE **The Miracle Worker**Valley of the Dolls

HOPE LANGE **Peyton Place**

CLAIRE TREVOR **Key Largo**Borderline

JEANNETTE MACDONALD San Francisco

CHARLIZE THERON

Monster

North Country

JANE WYMAN Johnny Belinda The Yearling

SUSAN HAYWARD

I Want To Live!

ELLEN CORBY

I Remember Mama

JEAN SIMMONS Hamlet Young Bess

HOPE DAVIS **The Daytrippers**

GIULETTA MASINA La Strada Juliet of the Spirits

AMY MADIGAN
Places in the Heart
Twice in a Lifetime

RUBY DEE

A Raisin in the Sun

KIM STANLEY **To Kill A Mockingbird (narr.)**Frances

JOAN BLONDELL A Tree Grows In Brooklyn

LYNN REDGRAVE Georgy Girl Gods & Monsters

MARJORIE MAIN
The Women
Meet Me In St Louis

JENNIFER JONES **Portrait of Jennie**Song of Bernadette

NATASSJA KINSKI Tess

TERESA WRIGHT
The Little Foxes
Mrs Miniver

DONNA REED
It's A Wonderful Life
From Here to Eternity

MOLLY RINGWALD

Sixteen Candles

The Breakfast Club

CARRIE FISHER
Star Wars

DEE WALLACE E.T. Cujo

NATASHA RICHARDSON
Gothic
The Handmaid's Tale

EILEEN BRENNAN **Private Benjamin**

MARGARET SULLAVAN **The Shop Around the Corner**Cry "Havoc"

ALINE MCMAHON The Search

MARIE WINDSOR
The Narrow Margin

JANE GREER

Out of the Past

GILLIAN ANDERSON
The House of Mirth

VIOLA DAVIS **Doubt**

FRANCES FARMER
Come and Get It

VERONICA LAKE The Blue Dahlia Sullivan's Travels

RITA TUSHINGHAM

A Taste of Honey

Dr. Zhivago

KERRY WASHINGTON Ray

ANN MILLER
Easter Parade
Kiss Me Kate

TUESDAY WELD
Play It As It Lays
Looking for Mr. Goodbar

MARY CATHERINE STEWART
Night of the Comet

VIRGINIA WEIDLER The Women The Philadelphia Story

SHIRLEY TEMPLE

A Little Princess

The Bachelor and the Bobbysoxer

BONITA GRANVILLE **These Three**Now, Voyager

JOANNA CASSIDY Under Fire

LINDA HUNT
The Year of Living Dangerously

NAOMI WATTS
The Ring
21 Grams

JOBETH WILLIAMS Memories of Me Poltergeist

MARY STUART MASTERSON

Fried Green Tomatoes

Some Kind of Wonderful

MICHELLE WILLIAMS
Brokeback Mountain
Wendy and Lucy

MARE WINNINGHAM Georgia

GENE TIERNEY
Leave Her to Heaven

LAURA DERN Smooth Talk Rambling Rose

MARSHA HUNT Cry "Havoc" **Pride and Prejudice**

ISABELLE ADJANI
The Story of Adele H.
Camille Claudel

MARSHA MASON Cinderella Liberty **The Goodbye Girl**

Sources:

Halliwell's Filmgoer's Companion (1993) Leonard Maltin's Classic Movie Guide (2004)

The Film Encyclopedia, by Ephraim Katz (2008)

VideoHound's Golden Movie Retriever (2010)